

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Express Mail No.: EL627426646US

In re Application of: JARMAN et al.

FILING DATE: Herewith

ART UNIT:

TITLE: A UTILITY METERING SYSTEM INCORPORATING A TRANSACTION  
AUTHORISATION SYSTEM

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 708P009508-US(PAR)

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified, enclosed patent application as follows:

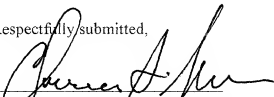
IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new paragraph to page 1 of the specification, after the title and before the "Field of Invention", in order to claim the benefit of the prior US application:

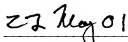
CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims the benefit of the US Provisional Application No. 60/210,997 filed June 12, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,



Clarence A. Green, Reg No.: 24,622  
Perman & Green, LLP  
425 Post Road  
Fairfield, CT 06430  
(203) 259-1800  
Customer No.: 2512



Date